

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/734,810

Examiner

Shin-Hon Chen

Applicant(s)

BENANTAR, MESSAOUD

Art Unit

2131

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed on 8/6/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>20071107</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                         |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-24 have been examined.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Cannatti on 11/9/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

5. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining authorized access to controlled resources within a distributed data processing system, the method comprising:
  - sending an attribute certificate from a client to a host within the distributed data processing system, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of an issuing authority for the attribute certificate; and
  - receiving authorization for the client to access the controlled resources in accordance with authorization attributes stored in the attribute certificate, wherein the authorization was dependent upon verification of the attribute certificate using the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate, where the public key certificate was retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a digital certificate, the method comprising:

receiving, at an attribute-certificate-issuing authority, a request for an attribute certificate from a client;

generating the attribute certificate in response to the received request for an attribute certificate, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of the attribute-certificate-issuing authority; and

sending the generated attribute certificate to the client for use in obtaining authorization by verifying the attribute certificate using the public key certificate that is retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for obtaining authorized access to controlled resources within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

sending means for sending an attribute certificate from a client to a host within the distributed data processing system, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of an issuing authority for the attribute certificate; and

first receiving means for receiving authorization for the client to access the controlled resources in accordance with authorization attributes stored in the attribute certificate, wherein the authorization was dependent upon verification of the attribute certificate using the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate, where the public key certificate was retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a digital certificate, the apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving, at an attribute-certificate-issuing authority, a request for an attribute certificate from a client;

generating means for generating the attribute certificate in response to the received request for an attribute certificate, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of the attribute-certificate-issuing authority; and

sending means for sending the generated attribute certificate to the client for use in obtaining authorization by verifying the attribute certificate using the public key certificate that is retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable storage medium for use in a distributed data processing system for authorizing access to controlled resources within the distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving an attribute certificate from a client at a host within the distributed data processing system;

instructions for extracting a first locator from the attribute certificate, wherein the first locator identifies a location of a public key certificate of an issuing authority for the attribute certificate;

instructions for retrieving the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate;

instructions for verifying the attribute certificate using the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate; and

instructions for authorizing the client to have access to the controlled resources in accordance with authorization attributes stored in the attribute certificate.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable storage medium for use in a distributed data processing system for obtaining authorized access to controlled resources within the distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for sending an attribute certificate from a client to a host within the distributed data processing system, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of an issuing authority for the attribute certificate; and

instructions for receiving authorization for the client to access the controlled resources in accordance with authorization attributes stored in the attribute certificate, wherein the authorization was dependent upon verification of the attribute certificate using the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate, where the public key certificate was retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable storage medium for use in a data processing system for generating a digital certificate, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving, at an attribute-certificate-issuing authority, a request for an attribute certificate from a client;

instructions for generating the attribute certificate in response to the received request for an attribute certificate, wherein the attribute certificate comprises a first locator that identifies a location of a public key certificate of the attribute-certificate-issuing authority; and

instructions for sending the generated attribute certificate to the client for use in obtaining authorization by verifying the attribute certificate using the public key certificate that is retrieved using the first locator from the attribute certificate.

25. (Cancelled).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art of record discloses a digital certification system in which a certificate includes a locator to additional information regarding the certificate. However, the closest prior art of record does not explicitly disclose retrieving the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute using the locator and verifying the attribute certificate using the public key certificate of the issuing authority for the attribute certificate in light of other features disclosed in independent claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, 21 and 23.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

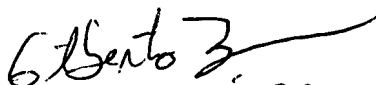
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Hon Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Shin-Hon Chen  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2131

SC

  
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